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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6754

BILL NUMBER: HB 1977

NOTE PREPARED: Feb 28, 2003

BILL AMENDED: Feb 27, 2003

SUBJECT: Defensive Driving School Programs.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Friend

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: CR Adopted - 1st House

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 X DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) This bill revises the number and classification of traffic violations for which the Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) may require a person to attend and satisfactorily complete a defensive driving school program. It restricts the cost for a driver improvement course to no more than: (1) \$60 for a classroom presentation; and (2) \$80 for a distance learning presentation.

Effective Date: July 1, 2003.

Explanation of State Expenditures: (Revised) Prohibiting the Bureau of Motor Vehicles from requiring a person to attend and complete a defensive driving school program if the person has committed only one moving traffic violation by exceeding maximum speed limits by less than 25 mile per hour may reduce the costs associated with the Defensive Driving School Program. The impact is indeterminable. The fund affected is the Motor Vehicle Highway Account which supports the BMV.

Background Information: Currently, if during any 12-month period, a person has committed moving violations for which the person has: (1) been convicted of at least two traffic misdemeanors; (2) had at least two traffic judgments entered against the person; or (3) been convicted of at least one traffic misdemeanor and has had at least one traffic judgment entered against the person, the BMV may require the person to attend and satisfactorily complete a defensive driving school program. In addition, a court may order a person to attend a defensive driving school program.

In CY 2001, 518,941 citations were issued for speeding. Of these, 512,575 were entered as guilty. In CY 2002, 192,134 citations were issued for speeding, with 190,166 entered as guilty.

Explanation of State Revenues: Revenue from the Defensive Driving School Program has averaged

approximately \$668,000 per year over the last five years, with about 133,600 drivers per year participating in the program. The amount of revenue received or the number of drivers who were required to attend the school solely because of speeding violations of under 25 miles per hour is not known. If speeding violations constitute a major portion of the defensive driving school attendees, this proposal will reduce revenues. The fund affected is the Motor Vehicle Highway Account.

The bill also doubles the maximum amount that may be charged for a driver improvement course. The BMV currently retains \$5 for the classroom presentation and \$5 for the distance learning presentation. The bill is silent as to whether the charge would be increased and how the increased charge would be shared between the BMV and the provider.

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Bureau of Motor Vehicles.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: 2001 and 2002 BMV Citations and Suspensions Report.

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